

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the non-final Office Action dated January 17, 2007. Claims 1 to 50 are pending in this application, of which claims 1, 18, 35, 40, 45, and 50 are the independent claims. Claims 1, 7, 12, 15, 17, 18, 24, 29, 32 to 35, 40, 42, 43, 45, 47, and 48 have been amended, and claim 50 has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, the Applicants note that, since support for the substance of the amendments and new claim is found throughout the disclosure, including at least pages 6 and 7 of the specification, no new matter has been added.

Furthermore, the Applicants' representative thanks Examiner Ingberg for the thoughtful courtesies and kind treatment afforded during the personal interview conducted on April 4, 2007. In the interview, the Applicants' representative described how the applied reference does not disclose at least the features of transforming non-XML data structures to XML documents. Moreover, the Applicants' representative pointed out further distinctions between the applied reference and the amended claims, such as the ability to transform Advanced Business Application Programming ("ABAP") data structures into XML documents. Although the interview was fruitful, the fact that the discussion was merely directed to proposed claim amendments prevented a further agreement regarding allowability from occurring. In this regard, although the Examiner tentatively concurred that the applied reference may not teach the above features, he also indicated that further search and consideration would be required once the claims were formally lodged.

In the Office Action, claims 35 to 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Having amended independent claim 35 to recite the provision of the transformed data to the application program, thereby producing a tangible result, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 101 rejection and further examination.

Additionally, claims 1 to 49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) over K. Y Fung, XSLT WORKING WITH XML AND HTML, Chapters 1 to 4, 6, 7, 12 and 13 ("Fung"). Withdrawal of the § 102 rejection and further examination are respectfully requested.

Referring to particular claim language, independent claim 1 recites a method for transforming application data structures into an XML document, the method including writing an application program having ABAP data structures, writing a transformation program, and executing the application program. The method further includes executing the transformation program when called for by the application program to transform the ABAP data structures from the application program into an XML document, and sending the XML document to a recipient.

The applied art is not seen to disclose, teach or to suggest the foregoing features recited by independent claim 1. In particular, Fung is not seen to disclose, nor does the Office Action even assert that Fung discloses, at least the features that: *i)* an application program having ABAP data structures is written, or *ii)* a transformation program is executed when called for by the application program to transform the ABAP data structures from the application program into an XML document. Rather, Fung is understood to teach using XSLT, which is a language that is not seen to be capable of operating on XML documents only. For this reason, Fung is not seen to be able to transform ABAP data structures (or any non-XML data structures, for that matter), as recited in independent claim 1.

Independent claim 18 recites a method for transforming an XML document into application data structures. The method includes writing an application program configured to use ABAP data structures, writing a transformation program, and executing the application program. The method further includes executing the transformation program when called for by the application program to transform an XML document into ABAP data structures for the application program, and using the ABAP data structures within the application program.

For the reasons stated above, Fung is not seen to disclose, teach or to suggest, nor does the Office Action even assert that Fung discloses at least the features that: *i)* an application program configured to use ABAP data structures is written, or *ii)* a transformation program is executed when called for by the application program to transform an XML document into ABAP data structures for the application program.

Independent claim 35 recites an application system including a first process configured to execute an application program, where the application program is operable to use a set of ABAP data structures, a second process configured to interpret a markup language document, and a transformation template configured to specify a symmetric mapping between the markup

language document and the set of ABAP data structures. The system further includes a transformation virtual machine running in association with the first process and operable to execute the transformation template, where the transformation virtual machine is operable to perform a symmetric transformation between the markup language document and the set of ABAP data structures to allow the first process and the second process to exchange information, and provide the transformed data to the application program.

For the reasons stated above, Fung is not seen to disclose, teach or to suggest, nor does the Office Action even assert that Fung discloses at least the features that: *i)* an application program is executed, where the application program is operable to use a set of ABAP data structures; *ii)* a symmetric mapping is specified between the markup language document and the set of ABAP data structures; or *iii)* a symmetric transformation is performed between the markup language document and the set of ABAP data structures to allow the first process and the second process to exchange information, and provide the transformed data to the application program.

Independent claim 40 recites a method for enabling application data structures to be used at multiple times by one or more application programs. The method includes executing an application program, the application program using one or more ABAP data structures, and executing a transformation program when called for by the application program, the transformation program being configured to transform the one or more ABAP data structures into XML content, the XML content including one or more XML structures corresponding to the one or more ABAP data structures, and transform the XML structures of the XML content into the one or more ABAP data structures. The method further includes providing the transformed data structures to the application program.

For the reasons stated above, Fung is not seen to disclose, teach, or to suggest, nor does the Office Action even assert that Fung discloses at least the features that: *i)* an application program is executed, the application program using one or more ABAP data structures; or *ii)* a transformation program is executed when called for by the application program, the transformation program being configured to transform the one or more ABAP data structures into XML content, the XML content including one or more XML structures corresponding to the one or more ABAP data structures, and transform the XML structures of the XML content into the one or more ABAP data structures.

Independent claim 45 recites a method for enabling application data structures to be used at multiple times by one or more application programs. The method includes executing an application program, the application program using one or more ABAP data structures, and executing a transformation program when called for by the application program, the transformation program being configured to transform the one or more ABAP data structures into XML data, the XML data including one or more XML structures corresponding to the one or more ABAP data structures, and transform the XML structures of the XML data into the one or more ABAP data structures. The method further includes providing the transformed data structures to the application program.

For the reasons stated above, Fung is not seen to disclose, teach or to suggest, nor does the Office Action even assert that Fung discloses at least the features that: *i)* an application program is executed, the application program using one or more ABAP data structures; or *ii)* a transformation program is executed when called for by the application program, the transformation program being configured to transform the one or more ABAP data structures into XML data, the XML data including one or more XML structures corresponding to the one or more ABAP data structures, and transform the XML structures of the XML data into the one or more ABAP data structures.

Lastly, new independent claim 50 recites a method for transforming application data structures into an XML document. The method includes writing an application program having non-XML data structures, writing a transformation program, and executing the application program. The method further includes executing the transformation program when called for by the application program to transform the non-XML data structures from the application program into an XML document, and sending the XML document to a recipient.

For the reasons stated above, Fung is not seen to disclose, teach or to suggest, nor does the Office Action even assert that Fung discloses at least the features that: *i)* an application program is written having non-XML data structures; *ii)* a transformation program is executed when called for by the application program to transform the non-XML data structures from the application program into an XML document.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent claims 1, 18, 35, 40, 45 and 50 are believed to be allowable over Fung. The other rejected claims in the

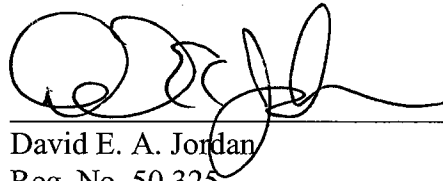
application are each dependent on these independent claims and are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the disclosure, individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance and such action is courteously solicited.

The \$200 excess claim fee is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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